Range Extension of Kelletia kelletii

BY

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A SINGLE Kelletia kelletii (Forbes, 1852) was collected by the author on 2 May 1980 at the Hopkins Marine Life Refuge, Pacific Grove, Monterey County, California. This specimen (92.1 mm total length; male) was found while using SCUBA at a depth of 10 m in a rocky, Macrocystis forest habitat. A second live individual (69.5 mm) was obtained by divers from the same area in June 1980. Two adult-sized K. kelletii were collected by SCUBA divers in kelp forests off the mouth of Big Creek along the Big Sur coast, Monterey County in May 1980 (M. G. Kellogg, pers. comm.). Finally, a fifth K. kelletii (97.5 mm; male) was found on 19 January 1981 by J. B. Thompson in a Monterey Macrocystis forest at a depth of 10 m.

These records are significant due to the lack of reports of Kelletia kelletii north of Point Conception (Abbott, 1974; McLean, 1978). The observation of five adult-sized K. kelletii in Monterey County suggests that the range of the species should be extended approximately 250 km northward to Monterey, California.

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Literature Cited

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